

Weekly Weather Crop Report

Week Ending May 18, 1997

Released May 19, 1997

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According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 6.3 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending May 18, 1997. The main farming activities for the week included planting cotton, rice, sorghum, soybeans, and other crops. Rain is needed in much of state, though dry weather conditions have been favorable for crop planting. Soil moisture conditions were rated 6 percent very short, 33 percent short, 56 percent adequate, and 5 percent surplus.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	1996	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Planted	100	99	100	94	0	2	20	70	8
	Emerged	96	95	99	90					
Cotton	Planted	89	34	96	84	0	10	33	48	9
	Emerged	46	9	86	69					
Rice	Planted	93	90	97	87	0	0	32	65	3
	Emerged	80	67	83	74					
Sorghum	Planted	94	70	87	76	0	0	13	87	0
	Emerged	85	55	72	64					
Soybeans	Planted	62	36	74	41	0	1	18	74	7
	Emerged	39	23	53	31					
Wheat	Heading	100	99	100	99	1	9	31	51	8
	Mature	9	7	36	25					
Peanuts	Planted	79	9	88	67	0	0	1	98	1
Sweetpotatoes	Planted	10	10	14	20	0	1	71	28	0
Hay (Cool Season)	Harvested	63	51	60	---	0	4	28	50	18
Hay (Warm Season)	Harvested	5	---	4	---					
Watermelons	Planted	88	86	92	86	0	14	37	41	8
Blueberries						3	2	31	45	19
Cattle						0	3	19	63	15
Pasture						3	7	28	51	11

County Agent Comments

"This is the first full week of the season that producers have been able to do fieldwork and they are taking full advantage of it. All of the corn and cotton has now been planted and soybean planting is in full swing. We could still use one-half to an inch of rain on some fields because they are drying rapidly."

— Victor Lee, Newton County

"Probably one-half of our cotton acres have been planted, and with a little more sunshine and warmer nights, cotton planting will be complete. Corn, for the most part, is growing and looking good."

— Charles Fitts, Chickasaw County

"Farmers are about finished with planting most crops except soybeans. Cool season hay harvest is winding down. Warm season hay harvest is getting underway. A one inch rain would help pastures."

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha County

"We need rain to ensure good establishment of permanent pastures. Cool nights have slowed down summer pasture growth; however, corn is looking good. Cotton planting is well underway."

— Perry Brumfield, Lawrence County

"Soybean planting has been the main farm activity this past week. Cotton is emerging and corn is being side-dressed. We can use some rain in most places."

— Melvin Oatis, Benton County

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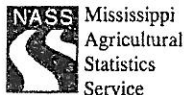
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Mississippi Agricultural
Statistics Service
Thomas L. Gregory, State Statistician

Weather Summary From May 12, 1997 to May 18, 1997 For Mississippi

District/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Ave Pan Evap
	Max	Min	Ave	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Ave	
1. Upper Delta													
Clarksdale	85	44	65	71	-6	0.07	-1.16	2	3.88	75	59	67	0.22
Cleveland	87	46	66			0.02		2	5.58				
Tunica	87	41	66	70	-4	0.00	-1.40	0	3.62	80	64	71	
Extreme/Average	87	41	66	71	-5	0.03	-1.29	1	4.36	80	59	69	0.22
2. North-Central													
Holly Springs	85	37	61	67	-6	0.02	-1.32	1	2.93	79	59	68	0.24
Memphis	88	45	67	71	-4	0.08	-0.94	1	4.72				
Oxford	87	38	63	68	-5	0.00	-1.23	0	3.71				
Extreme/Average	88	37	64	69	-5	0.03	-1.17	1	3.79	79	59	68	0.24
3. Northeast													
Booneville	83	42	61	68	-8	0.03	-1.37	1	3.19				
Corinth	88	42	64	70	-5	0.03	-1.12	1	2.44				
Iuka	83	35	56			0.00		0	2.94				
Pontotoc	85	40	63	69	-6	0.11	-1.03	1	7.52	84	61	70	0.26
Tupelo	88	43	64	69	-5	0.08	-1.28	2	5.12				
Verona	87	45	65			0.05		1	5.46	84	60	71	0.26
Extreme/Average	88	35	62	69	-7	0.05	-1.21	1	4.45	84	60	71	0.26
4. Lower Delta													
Belzoni	90	50	71	72	-2	0.00	-1.41	0	6.89	90	69	79	
Greenwood	89	49	69	72	-3	0.05	-1.16	2	5.67				
Rolling Fork	90	47	68			0.01	-1.25	1	3.58	96	73	84	0.24
Stoneville													
Yazoo City	88	46	68	72	-5	0.00	-1.30	0	4.70				
Extreme/Average	90	46	69	72	-3	0.02	-1.28	1	5.21	96	69	82	0.24
5. Central													
Carthage	86	42	65	70	-5	0.00	-1.15	0	5.74				
Jackson	86	50	69	72	-3	0.30	-1.11	1	6.74				
Winona	82	41	60	68	-8	0.13	-1.09	1	8.13				
Extreme/Average	86	41	65	70	-5	0.14	-1.12	1	6.87				
6. East-Central													
Brooksville						0.00	-1.01	0	3.74	85	64	75	
Columbus	90	50	68			0.00		0	6.74				
State University						0.00	-1.18	0	5.01				
Extreme/Average	90	50	68			0.00	-1.18	0	5.88	85	64		
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	86	51	70			0.00		0	6.79	88	66	78	
Natchez	85	51	69	73	-5	0.26	-0.90	1	7.45				
Oakley	89	49	70			0.08	-1.09	1	9.08	85	77	82	
Vicksburg	86	53	70			0.00		0	5.63				
Extreme/Average	89	49	70	73	-4	0.09	-1.08	1	7.24	88	66	80	
8. South-Central													
Columbia	87	54	71	73	-3	0.00	-1.22	0	6.61				
McComb	87	54	71	72	-1	0.00	-1.19	0	11.37				
Extreme/Average	87	54	71	73	-2	0.00	-1.21	0	8.99				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont	91	47	72			0.00		0	5.43	98	68	82	
Hattiesburg	88	56	71	73	-2	0.00	-1.19	0	4.01				
Laurel													
Meridian	89	46	68	71	-3	0.00	-1.22	0	5.94				
Newton	87	46	68	71	-3	0.00	-0.92	0	7.82	87	59	72	0.25
Extreme/Average	91	46	70	72	-2	0.00	-1.11	0	5.80	98	59	77	0.25
10. Coastal													
Bay St Louis	88	50	71			0.65		1	4.52				
Biloxi	84	63	73			0.00		0	2.87				
Gulfport	84	56	72	75	-3	0.00	-1.12	0					
Pascagoula	82	56	69	74	-5	0.74	-0.29	1					
Poplarville						0.00	-1.07	0					0.24
Extreme/Average	88	50	71	75	-3	0.28	-0.79	0	3.70				0.24
State	91	35	68	71	-4	0.06	-1.15	1	5.63	98	59	74	0.25

DFN = Departure from Normal.

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